

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent )  
application of: )  
 )  
Garden et al. )  
 )  
Serial No. New Application )  
 )  
Filed Herewith )  
 ) Atty Docket No. 4002-3358/PC933.00  
SYSTEMS AND TECHNIQUES FOR )  
STABILIZING THE SPINE AND )  
PLACING STABILIZATION SYSTEMS )

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Hon. Assistant Secretary and  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure embodied in 37 C.F.R § 1.56 and 1.98,

Applicant discloses the following references on the attached Information Disclosure

Citation Form.

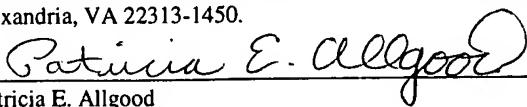
This information has not been previously submitted in this application by

Applicant. Copies of the foreign references and non-patent indicated are enclosed

herewith. U.S. Patent references are not enclosed.

**Express Mail Label No. EL 984 269 862 US** **Date of Deposit August 6, 2003**

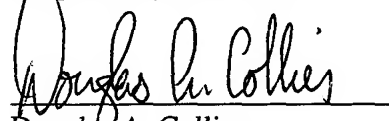
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Patricia E. Allgood

The filing of this information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56 or that any information cited is prior art.

This Statement is being submitted with the filing of the application. Therefore no fees are believed due for its consideration. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas A. Collier", is written over a horizontal line.

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)  Sheet 1 of 2				Atty. Docket No. 4002-3358/PC933.00		Serial No. New Application	
				Applicant Ben Garden et al.			
				Filing Date Herewith		Group	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
*Examiner Initial		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Filing Date If appropriate
	1	5,423,826	6/1995	Coates et al.			
	2	5,676,666	10/1997	Oxland et al.			
	3	5,669,915	9/1997	Caspar et al.			
	4	5,755,721	5/1998	Hearn			
	5	5,851,207	12/1998	Cesarone			
	6	6,066,142	5/2000	Serbousek et al.			
	7	6,193,721	2/2001	Michelson			
	8	6,235,034	5/2001	Bray			
	9	6,332,887	12/2001	Knox			
	10	6,342,056	1/2002	Mac-Thiong et al.			
	11	6,342,057	1/2002	Brace et al.			
	12	6,379,364	4/2002	Brace et al.			
	13	6,416,518	7/2002	DeMayo			
	14	6,436,103	8/2002	Suddaby			
	15	01/0047172	11/2001	Foley et al.			
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation
							Yes      No
	1	0 460 447 A1	5/1991	EPO			X
Examiner				Date Considered			
*Examiner: initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

PC933.00:DAC:233482

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	New Application
				Filing Date	Herewith
				First Named Inventor	Ben Garden
				Group Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	4002-3358/PC933.00

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>	
	1	THOMAS A. ZDEBLICK, M.D. and HARRY N. HERKOWITZ, M.D.; Premier Anterior Cervical Plate System, Surgical Technique; Premier Anterior Cervical Plate System; 2000 Medtronic Sofamor Danek.		
	2	ZEPHIR Anterior Cervical Plate System, Surgical Technique; 2000 Medtronic Sofamor Danek; pp 1-8.		
	3	GARY L. LOWERY, MD, PhD; Sugical Technique; ORION Anterior Cervical Plate System; Sofamor Danek The Spine Specialist; pp 1-24.		
	4	Trinica™ Anterior Cervical Plate System; 2001, Sulzer Medica Sulzer Spine-Tech.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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